

# What is PA-SIIS?

Managed by the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the PA Statewide Immunization Information System (PA-SIIS) is a statewide immunization registry that collects vaccination history information. It was developed to achieve complete and timely immunization for all people, particularly in the age group most at risk, birth through two years of age.

PA-SIIS helps to serve the public health goal of preventing the spread of vaccine preventable diseases. A major barrier to reaching this goal is the continuing difficulty of keeping immunization records accurate and up to date. PA-SIIS addresses this problem by capturing immunization information from health care providers and storing this information in one central location. If a child receives immunizations from more than one health care provider, PA-SIIS consolidates the immunization information from all providers to create a complete and current record. This assists health care providers to age-appropriately immunize all patients in their care.



## Benefits of Immunization Registries

### Parents and Registry Participants

- ◆ Provides an official, easily attainable immunization history for school, camp, and day care enrollment
- ◆ Assists with identifying missing immunizations
- ◆ Prevents unnecessary immunizations

### Health Care Providers

- ◆ Provides a complete and accurate immunization history for a new or existing patient
- ◆ Assists with vaccine management
- ◆ Produces immunization records for managed care, day care centers, schools, and camps
- ◆ Electronically stores all required immunization data, which will assist with Vaccines for Children (VFC) and The Health Plan Employer Data and Information Set (HEDIS) reporting
- ◆ Reduces unnecessary paperwork

### Communities

- ◆ Identifies populations at high risk for vaccine-preventable diseases
- ◆ Helps prevent disease outbreaks

## Frequently Asked Questions:

### *How is patient information entered into PA-SIIS?*

There are two ways:

- 1) All birth records from 1996 to date are electronically imported into PA-SIIS weekly.
- 2) Each PA-SIIS participating provider site enters the information for their patients receiving immunizations.

### *Is PA-SIIS secure/confidential?*

PA-SIIS policies and agreements protect against unauthorized disclosure of immunization and patient information. Software security guards data (passwords, timeout sessions, etc.). PA-SIIS complies with The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

### *How do I begin using PA-SIIS?*

PA-SIIS is a web-based registry that is currently available to health care providers and their staff. The only equipment you will need to use PA-SIIS is a computer with Internet access. At no cost to you, the Department of Health will provide:

- ◆ Confidentiality agreement, username, and password to access PA-SIIS on-line
- ◆ Start-up assistance
- ◆ Instruction manual and training
- ◆ Ongoing technical support

To schedule an orientation for your staff, please contact a member of the PA-SIIS staff at 717-783-2548 or 800-323-9613.